

Gleanings



Greetings to everyone.

The season of Lent is being observed in many ways. Possibly the following prayer will offer meaning to us all.

*Give us O Lord churches that will be more
courageous than cautious.
That will not merely comfort the afflicted,
but also afflict the comfortable.
That will not only love the world,
but also judge the world:
That will not only pursue peace
also demand justice.
That will not remain silent when people
are calling for a voice.
That will not pass by on the other side
when wounded humanity is waiting to be
healed.
That will not only call us to worship
but also send us out to witness.
That will follow Jesus Christ even
when the way points to the cross.
To this end we offer ourselves in the
name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

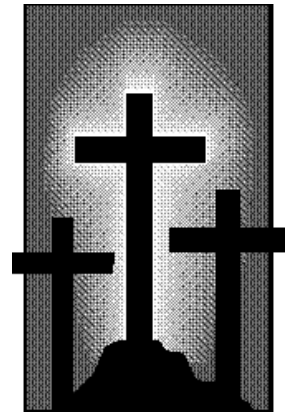
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Your prayerful support is sought for the Moderator, The Right Rev Pamela Tankersley as she fulfils her ministry. From 20 April – 2 May Pamela will be visiting Dunedin and North Otago Presbyteries, including Otago and Southland Synod AGM, a visit to the School of Ministry, and will be holding a workshop with the students.

If you would value personal and full itineraries of Pamela's commitments, please contact:

Heather Tate – email kegtat@clear.net.nz

Have you seen the Ecumenical Service prepared for the World Day of Prayer by the women of Paraguay? The voices of nine women included in the service are haunting. The Bible Study at the end of the service is another resource open to us.



Celebrations

Congratulations are extended to Revs Sylvia Jenkin and Beryl Palmer who have been ordained for fifty years.

Sylvia writes: 'As it happens, the PWMU had a great deal to do with my vocation as they provided two bursaries each year for two deaconess students, supporting them by paying our full boarding costs at Deaconess College for all three years of our training. I was one of these two. What a great gift that was for us women, who in those days before equal pay, mostly had very little savings before or after our training! I have always been grateful for that. Many thanks, and may our Lord continue to uphold the APW and all the women of the Church'.

Are you looking for an interesting and arresting programme for your parish group?

The latest Christian World Service documentary, 'Water, Who Owns It?' is available on DVD. This programme centres upon Sri Lanka and there is a Bible Study in the accompanying leaflet based upon Ezekiel 47:1-12. Prayers are also included:

God of Life ..

*God of all those who walk miles for
water,
God of those whose only supply is
contaminated, bringing death, not
life.
May water, clean and life-giving, be
available to every living creature.
May that vision move forward.
May your will be done. Amen.*

News from the Regions

Manawatu Presbyterial has for many years at their December meeting collected goods to be distributed to Women's Refuge and Prisoners' Aid. It is truly amazing how much is gathered together for these organizations. The representatives from both groups are invited to come and speak briefly about their work and to accept the 'goodies'. What a delight it is to load up the vans with all the boxes and to know that someone, somewhere will have a gift at Christmas time. We also have a member who collects all our used cards for any occasion, and these are remade and along with envelopes are distributed to inmates in Linton Prison for them to send to family and friends.

- Anne Harris

Letters of Appreciation:

- **From Carol Pirie and Elizabeth Petersen:**

On behalf of all the ordinands and their families, we want to thank you for your generous gift of support for the students. The end of the year valedictory service and various farewell occasions were really heart-warming. You may be surprised to learn that many of the ordinands and their partners had never heard of the APW until they came to Dunedin! They continue to be amazed that all these people really care about them and they certainly appreciate everything that is done for them. They will go out into their parishes with a new understanding. Again, many thanks for the support and encouragement.

- **APW members want to say a big thank you** to Carol and Elizabeth for their tireless efforts on our behalf.

- **From the Rev Andrew Bell – Global Mission Office:**

I write to express our thanks for your most generous donations that we received in November. The APW has once again blessed many people abundantly through the work of the Global Mission Office. The \$10,000 allocated to the GMO has been put to good use, enabling me to employ Ms. Atitala Ah Yek as Global Project's Manager. You will remember that Atitala spoke at your National Conference. The gifts for the Prison Ministry in Thailand, work at Jagadhri, the NZ Friendship Farm in North Korea, water tanks in Vanuatu and the Amity Foundation for the care of rural orphans in China have all been sent. It is truly a privilege for us to partner with the women of APW in their Global Mission endeavours. The GMO is in good heart. However, for us to be able to continue to do this work, we rely heavily on the generosity of individuals, congregations and the APW. Without you we would receive very little. We will remember you in our prayers.

- **From Jonathan Fletcher, National Director, Christian World Service:**

Please would you pass on to the APW our thanks and admiration for their incredible hard work and generosity in raising money for the work of the Church of Uganda (last year's part of our Special Project). CWS has had a long and valued relationship with the Church of Uganda and over the years we have supported many of their development programmes that operate at grassroots levels in village communities. Thank you to APW in Aotearoa for supporting the women in Uganda.

- **From Jo Ryan for Presbyterian Youth Ministry:**

I am writing to thank the APW for your generous contribution to the work of Presbyterian Youth Ministry. Your kind support and your prayers are greatly appreciated, and we wish to pass on our thanks to all those involved. We will put this money towards running 'Going Somewhere' which is a regional leadership and discipleship programme for those aged 15-22 in Presbyterian and Uniting Churches. 'Going Somewhere' started in 2002 in Wellington and has now grown to Auckland, Dunedin, Christchurch and Blenheim. Your support will help us to grow young Presbyterian leaders around New Zealand. Our warm greetings and prayers are with you, and for the wonderful work you do.



Natalie and Mary express the hope that Easter will bring the blessings of the risen Christ to you all.

Have you read the good news in the NCG newsletter? Please contact your Regional Co-ordinator or Presbyterian Secretary for a copy. We need your vote to be counted at the meeting on 19 May in Wellington.

News from the Regions (Continued) ...

'The Gathering', Central Otago has begun their year in Alexandra with an attendance of sixty-four women. Two speakers emphasized missionary work. The Rev Hilary Beresford spoke of her calling to engage in missionary work. She served in India, Papua New Guinea, and Poland before returning to England where she trained as a Baptist minister. She was ordained in New Zealand in 2000. Her next move was to Central Otago as one of the team at Charlotte Jean Maternity Home, and was later ordained as a Presbyterian Minister. Mrs. Pauline England also shared her work as a missionary with her husband in Romania amongst the Gypsy Community. The Englands are in the process of forming Youth Training Schools to provide living skills. The speakers were followed by a Mannequin Parade which was enjoyed by all.